

Pricey cow milk contaminated as melamine scare spreads

Powder milk mixed with cow milk in Nilphamari, doctors say

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

Melamine contamination in a few popular foreign brands of powdered milk has made the panicked parents of babies to buy cow milk from the open market, making it pricier in northern districts.

But there are reports of many babies' becoming affected with intestine diseases after taking adulterated cow milk as many traders are mixing low quality powder milk with cow milk to earn high profit.

But the market monitoring by the government agencies is still poor.

Dr Dilip Kumar Roy, child specialist of Nilphamari 100-bed hospital, said anxious parents of infant babies are coming to him to seek advice whether it is right to use cow milk as substitute for foreign powdered milk.

"The babies under six months can take a mixture of cow milk, water and sugar in the proportion of one litre milk, one litre water and one spoonful of sugar. For babies above six months, additional food like khichuri, suji and some other food can be given along with it. But in the both cases, breast-feeding should continue," he said.

"The babies attacked with intestine diseases are being taken to hospitals in large number recently. So special care should be taken so that the babies are not fed with adulterated cow milk. The proportion

should be correct too," Dr Dilip said.

Several parents told this correspondent that fearing melamine contamination, they are avoiding not only powdered milk of eight banned brands but also other brands not yet banned by the government.

They said they are feeding their babies cow milk purchased from open markets.

Sources said taking the opportunity of high demand of cow milk many traders are adulterating cow milk with dirty water of the ponds and canals or some substandard powdered milk smuggled from India. Lack of hygiene sense of among a section of cow milk traders adds to the problem.

"I used to feed my six-month-old baby Red Cow and Dano powdered milk. After banning of the two brands, I started feeding him cow milk in recommended proportion. But the baby has got intestine disease caused due to adulterated milk sold in the open market," said Shilu Mia, a trader in Nilphamari.

Ahsan Habib Nilu, a journalist in Kurigram, said, "My wife, a college teacher, has to spend most part of the day at the workplace. A woman housekeeper takes care of our six and a half month-old baby. Earlier the child was given powdered milk but after the ban on some contaminated brands, we are giving it cow milk along with other

foods. Fearing adulteration of the cow milk in the open market, I have bought a milking cow to get pure milk so that we can save the baby from intestine disease."

Many parents are rushing to the dairy farms where quality and hygiene are believed to be maintained to some extent but most buyers become disappointed as they fail to get milk even for additional prices.

Ali Akbar, the owner of one of the biggest dairy farms in Kurigram, said the demand of cow milk has increased greatly in recent time. Buyers are coming from distant places, making his daily produce of 70-80 litres of milk sold out in a short time, he said.

The owner of Lalon Palon Dairy Farm at Nilphamari, Belal Hossen said many parents of babies are now dissatisfied with him for failure to supply cow milk as per requirement.

Visiting different cow milk markets in Nilphamari, Kurigram and Lalmonirhat districts it was found that a litre of cow milk is being sold from Tk 32-Tk 35 which was Tk 25-Tk 26 two weeks back.

Besides adulteration of milk, lack of hygiene makes cow milk unsafe for consumers.

The sanitary inspector of Nilphamari, Hamidul Islam told this correspondent that they would soon launch drive against adulteration of cow milk.



Widow demands security, trial of husband's killers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

A widow with her baby is moving door-to-door demanding security of life and trial of her husband's killers at Baoikhola village in Raiganj upazila of Sirajganj district.

Facing death threat to withdraw the case filed for killing her husband, she approached the local influential persons and police demanding security of life, but no one came to help her, said Asma Khatun, 22, wife of late Thandusheikh.

Thandusheikh, 25, of Baoikhola village had been working as a domestic help at the house of Nurul Islam of the same village for long, police and locals said.

A few months ago, Thandusheikh and Nurul got locked into a quarrel over payment of Thandusheikh's salary. On May 4, Raiganj police recovered Thandusheikh's body from Nurul's

irrigation machine room in the field.

Later a murder case was lodged with Senior Judicial Magistrate's Court in Sirajganj accusing five people including Nurul Islam for Thandusheikh's murder. The court gave the charge of investigation to CID police.

The accused, who created pressure on Asma to withdraw the case, are moving in the area openly due to lack of police action, locals said.

Asma, who gave birth to a girl child 14 days after her husband's killing, and her family members have demanded security of their lives and immediate punishment to the killers.

When contacted, CID officer Abdur Rashid said, "The investigation work is going on. The accused have not been arrested so far for the sake of investigation. They would be nabbed when needed," he said.

BNP stronghold in Tangail weakens as 4 bigwigs not in scene

Local party men think of alternatives as four former ministers' participation in polls uncertain

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Participation of four former BNP ministers from Tangail is still uncertain as they are either in jail or virtually inactive since declaration of emergency, political circles said.

One of them is in jail, one on the run and two others are virtually absent from their constituencies since 1/11, they said.

In their long absence, local party men are thinking alternatives and the party high ups are also looking for new faces, party insiders said.

Former minister for jute and textile and influential BNP leader from Tangail Shajahan Siraj and his family are absconding since declaration of emergency, police said.

Shajahan Siraj, his wife Rabeya Siraj, son and daughter is convicted in absence in a tax dodging case. Shajahan Siraj, vice president of BNP, also faces two more corruption cases, police said.

Shajahan Siraj won from the Tangail-4 (Kalihati) constituency by defeating Awami League (AL) candidate Abdul Latif Siddiqui in election of 2001.

In his absence, Lutfar Rahman Matin, America expatriate Atiqur Rahman Yousuf Salu, former vice president of Government Saadat college Selim Reza and Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal leader Benzir Ahmed Titu are seeking BNP ticket from the constituency, party sources said.

Former state minister for NGO affairs Lutfar Rahman Khan Azad is virtually inactive in politics since the emergency.

After 1/11, he was seen only in Tangail court area two times when he went to appear in a cheating case filed with Ghatail police station. Azad was however later exempted from the case. He was not seen in the constituency so far, local party men claimed.

Authorities concerned asked his and his family members' bank statements recently, sources said.

Azad won from Tangail-3 (Ghatail) constituency in the elections in 1991, 1996 of 2001 elections by defeating Awami League candidate Shamsur Rahman Khan Shajahan.



Shajahan Siraj



Abdus Salam Pintu



Lutfar Rahman Khan Azad



Goutam Chakroborty

Ghatail Mayor Abdur Rashid Miah, president of Ghatail Pura unit of, as an alternative, party sources said.

Goutam Chakroborty, former state minister for water resources during 4-party alliance government was seen in his Nagarpur constituency only once since 1/11, party men claimed.

Goutam won from the Tangail-6 (Nagarpur) in 1996 and 2001 elections by defeating AL candidate Khandakar Abdur Baten.

In Goutam's silence, Nagarpur upazila BNP president Habibur Rahman Chunnun, Barrister Ashe Ali, former JCD leaders Robul Islam Lablu, Shoriful Islam Arzu and Ahmed Hossain Swapna are seeking alliance ticket from the constituency, they said.

Former deputy minister for education Abdus Salam Pintu,

another influential BNP leader from Tangail, was arrested in connection with the August 21 grenade attack on Sheikh Hasina's rally. He is in jail.

Salam Pintu won from Tangail-2 (Bhuapur-Gopalpur) in 2001 election by defeating AL candidate Khandakar Asaduzzaman.

If Salam Pintu can not contest for any reason, his younger brother and JCD central senior vice president Sultan Salahuddin Tuku or BNP's alliance partner BJP (Nazim-Firoz) secretary general Shamim-al-Mamun may contest from the constituency as alliance candidate, party sources said.

Some dedicated field level BNP leaders and activists told The Daily Star that BNP stronghold Tangail may see a much weaker organization in coming days.

'Birshrestha Hamidur Rahman is pride of the nation'

Discussants say at the hero's 37th death anniversary

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

Speakers at a discussion held at Hamid Nagar (former Khordakhalishpur) village in Moheshpur upazila yesterday paid rich tributes to Bir Shrestha Hamidur Rahman by terming him as our national pride who sacrificed his life for independence of motherland rather than retreating in battlefield during the Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971.

Bir Shrestha Hamidur Rahman Degree College and Bir Shrestha Hamidur Rahman Death Anniversary Observation Committee jointly organised the discussion in observance of martyrdom anniversary of national hero.

Held at Bir Shrestha Sipahi Hamidur Rahman Smriti Jadughar and Pathagar, the discussion was chaired by Moheshpur Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Oziur Rahman while it was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) of Jhenidah Md Abu Masud as chief guest and Chief Executive Officer Nasir Uddin of Jhenidah Zilla Parishad, Captain Alamin Tarafdar, Commander of Joint Forces of Jhenidah and magistrate PK Enamul Kabir as special guests.

Joint Forces Commander Captain Tarafdar said Bir Shrestha Hamidur Rahman will be remembered with gratitude by all irrespective of caste and creed for his supreme sacrifice he made for liberating the country from the occupation Pakistan army.

ADC Abu Masud said he would try to develop Hamidur Rahman College as well as the village roads. He also promised to do his best for upgrading the college to degree level the next year.

While serving at East Bengal Regiment in 1971, Sipahi Hamidur Rahman joined the liberation war and embraced martyrdom during a fierce battle with the occupation forces at Dhali frontier in Sylhet on October 28, 1971.

Earlier, wreathes were placed at his portrait besides holding of Quurankhwani, milad mahfil and feeding of destitutes.

Civil and military officials, journalists, teachers, students, freedom fighters and people from all walks of life attended the ceremony.



PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

Prothom Alo Bandhusava brings out a colourful procession in Chapainawabganj town yesterday marking 83rd birth anniversary of Ila Mitra, the legendary leader of 1948-50 peasant movement in Nachole in Rajshahi.

Teachers, students demand punishment as culprits at large

RU Correspondent

Teachers and students of Asian University at Rajshahi campus yesterday urged the chief advisor to the caretaker government to take steps for immediate arrest and punishment of the criminals who cut off two wrists of a student of the university.

On September 20, local criminals cut off two wrists of Abdul Alim, son of Abdur Rashid, village of Chakbistopur under Atrai upazila of Naogaon, also a 5th semester student of Bangla department at Asian University, Rajshahi campus.

The teachers, students and victim's family members at a press conference at a city restaurant said the criminals attacked Alim as he protested their criminal activities in the area.

Alim's father Abdur Rashid told newsmen that the terrorists kidnapped Alim on September 20 and left him bleeding in front of his house.

"After I filed a case with Atrai Police Station against former JMB activists Mofazzal, Rafiqul Islam, Mustak, Mosharraf and Abdus Sattar on September 21, the criminals

threatened to blow up our house with bomb and kill us," he said.

The criminals are still moving in the village freely but police did not take any action, he said.

The teachers and students of the university urged the authorities concerned to take steps for immediate arrest and punishment of the criminals and ensure security of the victim's family members.

The university authorities announced that they will bear Alim's educational expenses until completion of his degree.

Manjur Elahi, deputy registrar of the Rajshahi campus of the university, read out a written statement during the conference where university teachers Aminun Zaman Talukder, Mohsin Reza, Anisur Rahman, Abdur Rouf, Shahadat Hossain, Rahat Sharif, Mahmudul Kabir, victim's mother Nurzahan Begum and department students were present.

When contacted, Atrai Police Station Officer-in-Charge Prodip Kumar said they are trying to arrest the criminals.

RAPE, MURDER IN KHALISHPUR

OC declines to record murder case, alleges victim's mother

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

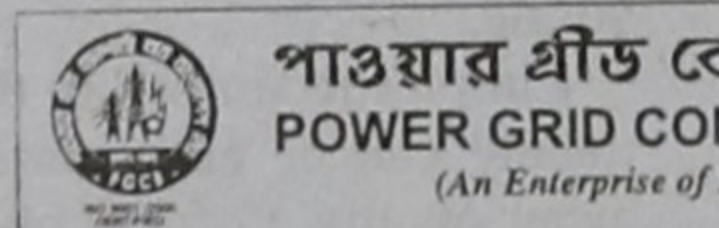
Mother of a teenage girl who was killed after rape at her master's house here on October 13 brought an allegation against the officer-in-charge (OC) of Khalishpur Police Station for not recording a murder case against the culprits.

Mariam Begum, mother of the ill-fated 14-year-old girl, Akhi alleged this at a press conference held at Khulna Press Club yesterday. She alleged that her daughter was raped and killed at the house of Shahidul Islam, working at Khulna Deputy Commissioner's office as 'Nazir'. Akhi was working at his house as a domestic help for the

last nine months.

Wife of day labourer Shafiqul Islam, Mariam also alleged that Khalishpur Police Station Sub-Inspector Tozammel Hossain who recovered the body of her daughter warned her not to file any case, otherwise he threatened of dire consequences. He asked her to compromise the culprit. She further said Nazir Shahidul had influenced the OC and other officials of Khalishpur Police Station not to receive any FIR in connection with the murder.

She demanded intervention of the higher authorities of Khulna Metropolitan Police for an impartial investigation into the incident as well as arrest of the culprits.



পাওয়ার গ্রীড কোম্পানী অব বাংলাদেশ লিঃ
POWER GRID COMPANY OF BANGLADESH LTD.
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)

No. 01/PGCB/Sec/2008/3930

Date: October 27, 2008

NOTICE OF TIME EXTENSION

For Closing Date for Submission of Bid Of

Design-Build and Turnkey Contract for Construction of 400kV Meghnaghat-Aminbazar Transmission Line Project. (Contract No: PGCB/SPSDP/400kVTL/M-A)

Ref: Memo No. 01/PGCB/Sec/2008/2787 dated July 30, 2008

The closing date for submission of Bids for the above mentioned Project is hereby extended from November 05, 2008 at 11:00 am BST to November 24, 2008 at 11:00 am BST.

All other terms and conditions for the above Bidding Documents shall remain unaltered.

(Md. Ashraf Hossain)
Company Secretary

পাওয়ার গ্রীড কোম্পানী অব বাংলাদেশ লিঃ
POWER GRID COMPANY OF BANGLADESH LTD.
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)

Institution of Engineers (IEB) New Bhaban (4th floor) Ramna, Dhaka-1000

No-01/PGCB/Sec/08/3993

Date: 28/10/2008

Price Sensitive Information

This is for kind information of all concerned that the Board of Directors of the Company in its 157th meeting held on Tuesday, October 28th, 2008 at 8.00 pm has taken the following price sensitive decisions, details as under :

| | |
|--|---|
| 1. Recommended Dividend for the year ended 30th June, 2008 | The Board of Directors recommended for declaration of Cash Dividend @ 27% per share of TK. 100.00 each for the year ended 30 June, 2008 subject to approval of the Shareholders in the ensuing 12th AGM of the Company. |
| 2. Date & Time of 12th AGM | Thursday, March 5, 2009 at 11:00 am. |
| 3. Venue of 12th AGM | Venue will be disclosed later. |
| 4. Record Date for 12th AGM | Thursday, November 20, 2008 (The Shareholders, whose names would appear as shareholders in the Register of Members including CDBL at the close of business on the Record Date shall be entitled to receive the Dividend, if approved as above.) |

By Order of the Board

(Md. Ashraf Hossain)

Company Secretary

Dated: The 28th October, 2008

ন্যাশনাল টিউবস লিমিটেড
(বাংলাদেশ ইম্পাত ও প্রকৌশল করপোরেশনের একটি প্রতিষ্ঠান)
১৩১-১৪২ টংগী শিল্প এলাকা
টংগী, গাজীপুর-১৭০১

আদমজী পাইপ নামে খ্যাত এনটিএলের জিআই/এমএস/এপিআই পাইপ ব্যবহার করুন যা দীর্ঘস্থায়ী, পুনঃ ব্যবহারযোগ্য, নির্ভরযোগ্য ও নিরাপদ।

API LICENSEE এবং ISO-9001 সনদপ্রাপ্ত কোম্পানী।

এম এস এসিড ট্যাংকে রাবার লাইনিং কাজের টেন্ডার বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক, ন্যাশনাল টিউবস লিমিটেড, টংগী, গাজীপুর কর্তৃক একটি এসিড ট্যাংকে রাবার লাইনিং করার জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট/টিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠান হইতে সীলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইতেছে :

| টেন্ডার নং ও তারিখ | কাজের নাম ও বিবরণ | আবেদন মূল্য (ফেরৎযোগ্য) | টেন্ডার দলিলের মূল্য (অফেরৎযোগ্য) | টেন্ডার খোলার তারিখ ও সময় |
|------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| উপাদান/৬৯/০৮-০০২ তারিখ ২৭-১০-০৮ | এম এস এসিড ট্যাংকে রাবার লাইনিং ২৫০ বর্গফুট | টংগী ৩,০০০/- (তিন হাজার) | টংগী ২০০/- (দুইশত) মাত্র। | ১৬-১১-২০০৮ তারিখ সকাল ১১-০০ ঘটিকায় টেন্ডার বাজ বন্ধ হইবে এবং একই তারিখে সকাল ১১-১৫ ঘটিকায় খোলা হইবে। |

উক্ত টেন্ডার সিডিউল নির্ধারিত মূল্য পরিপোষ সাপেক্ষে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে হিসাব বিভাগ, ন্যাশনাল টিউবস লিমিটেড, টংগী শিল্প এলাকা, গাজীপুর এবং হিসাব নিয়ন্ত্রক, বাংলাদেশ ইম্পাত ও প্রকৌশল করপোরেশন, বিএসইসি ভবন, ১০২ কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম এভিনিউ, ঢাকা-১১১৫ হইতে পাওয়া যাইবে। অনিবার্য কারণ বশতঃ টেন্ডার খোলার দিন অফিস ছুটি/বন্ধ থাকিলে পরবর্তী কার্যদিবসে একই সময়ে উভয় স্থানে টেন্ডার গ্রহণ ও খোলা হইবে। টেন্ডার খোলার দিন কোন দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয় করা হইবে না।

(ফসিউল আলম)

অতিরিক্ত প্রধান প্রকৌশলী (উৎপাদন)

ফোন নং ০১৭১৮-৩২৯০৬১